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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**Halloween Safety for 2020: Law Enforcement Stepping Up Patrols**

**Kankakee, IL** – The state of Illinois, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and state police recently released safety guidelines ahead of the holiday weekend, and how they will be stepping up patrols.

According to their recent announcement on Tuesday, Illinois motor vehicle crash fatality rates are higher than last year at this time of year. As of October 23, 2020, 864 people lost their lives in vehicle crashes in Illinois this year, according to IDOT provisional data, 48 higher compared to the same time frame last year.

State and local officials are reminding residents to be responsible, plan ahead, and drive sober. Law enforcement will be stepping up efforts this weekend. The enforcement period will extend from Halloween through the early-morning hours of Monday, November 2, 2020.

“We ask that everyone be responsible and celebrate safely this weekend. We have social distancing guidelines in place for the police department’s trunk or treat event. We are looking forward to seeing everyone tonight in their vehicles with their costumes,” said Police Chief, Frank Kosman.

“If you plan to celebrate this weekend, please remember to social distance, wash your hands and wear a mask to protect yourself and others. The City shared guidelines from the Illinois Department of Public Health on the City’s website. Have fun, but be safe,” said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

For Halloween safety guidance, visit: <https://citykankakee-il.gov/perch/resources/halloweenguidanceidph.pdf>.

For more guidelines from the Illinois Department of Public Health, visit [dph.illinois.gov/covid19](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19).

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The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant, and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow, and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive, and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at [www.citykankakee-il.gov](http://www.citykankakee-il.gov).